VIZ Media Edition

11

switch

naked ape : Saki Otoh & Nakamura Tomo

switch
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Act.51

TAK
TAK
TAK
TAK
Greater Kanto Public Welfare Ministry Narcotics Control Division
TAK
TAK
...
HEY, WHERE IS HE?

KAJIYAMA!
GLANCE
UH...
GREATER KANTO PUBLIC WELFARE MINISTRY NARCOTICS CONTROL DIVISION ROOKIE AGENT, KEIGO KAJIYAMA
HE STAYED IN THE OFFICE. SAID THERE WAS SOMETHING HE WANTED TO LOOK INTO
THAT IDIOT!
DOOM
GREATER KANTO PUBLIC WELFARE MINISTRY NARCOTICS CONTROL DIVISION INVESTIGATION SECTION CHIEF, ONODERA
WE'VE GOT A BUST TODAY!
WHAT THE HELL DOES HE THINK HE'S GONNA DO BEHIND A DAMN DESK?!
EZZT
ALL KINDS OF THINGS.

FOR EXAMPLE, FROM MY DESK—
I FOUND OUT THE RIGHT LOCATION FOR THE BUST. HEADING THERE NOW
GREATER KANTO PUBLIC WELFARE MINISTRY NARCOTICS CONTROL DIVISION ROOKIE AGENT, MASATAKA HIKI
THE ROOM THAT YOU'RE HEADING TO NOW, CHIEF—
IF YOU'D CHECK FOR YOURSELF, YOU'D SEE
THE *RIGHT LOCATION?* THE HELL'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
THERE'S NO SIGN HE'S LEFT THE—
HERE'S THE ADDRESS OF THE CORRECT LOCATION MEGURO WARD
WE CONFIRMED THE ENTRY OF THE DEALER JUST AN HOUR AGO!
THAT'S RIDICU-LOUS!
—IT'S COM-PLETELY EMPTY

IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO MAKE THE ARREST ON MY OWN.
SO HURRY OVER AS QUICKLY AS YOU CAN, OKAY?
BUT
GREAT, HE'S DONE IT AGAIN...
UM, CHIEF ONODERA? WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
WE'RE NOT FOLLOWING THE ORDERS OF SOME SNOT-NOSED KID!
WE'RE STARTING THE BUST HERE, AS PLANNED--
VROOM
HEY! WHERE'RE YOU GOING?
IT'S JUST.
CHIEF, PLEASE, CALM DOWN!
Think of the neighbors!
DON'T GIVE ME YOUR HALF-ASSED LIES!!
VROOOM!
WITH ALL THIS TENSION, I GOTTA USE THE CAN

SLUMP
GRIN
GRIN
...SO?

HOW DID THIS "RIGHT PLACE" OF YOURS WORK OUT?
WELL, YOU SEE...
AFTER COLLECTING AND ANALYZING THE INFORMATION...
I LEARNED FROM THE BLUEPRINTS THAT THE APARTMENT HAD A SECRET PASSAGE IN IT.
STARE
...
BASED ON THEIR TENDENCIES SO FAR, THERE WAS A HIGH PROBABILITY THAT THEY WOULD ALREADY BE RETURNING
WHICH IS WHY I HEADED TO THE DEALER'S RESIDENCE TOO.
HUH?
WELL, SAY SO A LITTLE SOONER NEXT TIME!!
BUT I DID!
FROM THE MIDDLE OF THE INVESTIGATION...
I SAID THE BUILDING HAD A SLIGHTLY STRANGE LAYOUT AND THAT WE SHOULD REQUEST THE BLUEPRINTS

I MADE THE PROPOSAL SEVERAL TIMES
BUT ALL YOU SAID WAS, "THE ENTRANCE AND EXIT ARE IN THE SAME PLACE! I SAW IT, AND I KNOW!" IT WAS MOST UNFORTUNATE
THAT YOU WOULDN'T LISTEN
WHAT?!
HE'S ONE TO TALK
WE MADE THE ARRESTS, SO EVERYTHING TURNED OUT ALL RIGHT
NOW, NOW
SAVE
WHA
UH...
STUNNED
UH... WHAT...
...IS GOING TO HAPPEN TO ME?
Interrogation Room
I'M JUST A STUDENT
...AND MY PARENTS ARE STILL SUPPORTING ME

IF THIS COMES OUT, I'LL BE EX-PELLED!
LOOK, KID.
IF THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT, WHY DID YOU START DEALING IN THE FIRST PLACE?
BECAUSE I HEARD IT WAS GOOD WORK! A FRIEND INTRO-DUCED ME...
I MIGHT BE SELLING... BUT I'VE NEVE.. USED THE STUFF MYSELF!
IF YOU CHECK, YOU'LL SEE! THIS JUST CAN'T...
THIS JUST CAN'T WHAT?
DO YOU HAVE ANY CLUE HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE ADDICTS NOW BECAUSE OF YOU?
!
DON'T SCREW WITH ME, KID!
I-I'M SOR-RY snif
I WON'T DO IT AGAIN...
snif I PROM-ISE I WON'T, SO...
...

I'LL TELL YOU ANY-THING...
SO PLEASE, DON'T SAY ANYTHING TO MY PARENTS OR THE SCHOOL!
...
HIKI, GET LOST.
...
ANY-THING, EH?
GRIN
Interrogation Room
KACHI
HUH?
WHAT ABOUT THE EXAMI-NATION?
I GOT KICKED OUT.
LOOK, HIKI...
KICHI
YOU GOTTA TRY TO GET ALONG BETTER WITH THE CHIEF
PUT YOURSELF IN MY POSITION, ALWAYS HAVING TO SMOOTH THINGS OVER
PLEH
IT'S NOT LIKE I DID IT JUST TO FIGHT WITH HIM...
You're so mean

HE'S TRYING TO MAKE A NEW SNITCH.
AH, I SEE.
SO HE'S GONNA TURN THAT DEALER INTO A NEW INFORMER THEN?
YUP.
BRRR
BUT... THE KID'S STILL A STUDENT, RIGHT?
HELL, MAYBE IT'LL BE OKAY.
THESE ARE BAD TIMES— EVEN KIDS CAN GET DRUGS WITHOUT MUCH TROUBLE
HAVING A STUDENT INFORMER COULD BE HUGE
AND IF WE'RE NOT GONNA USE HIM, WE NEED TO MAKE THE ARREST AS FAST AS WE CAN.
TAK
TAK
TAK
...
God he's always so intense
TAK
TAK
TAK

...OKAY.
RING
KLK
SHE

HELLO?
OH, IT'S YOU
LONG TIME NO TALK YOU DOING OKAY?
YES, THANKS TO YOU.
CALLING THE CHIEF'S LINE DIRECTLY?
O_O
SO.. ABOUT WHAT WE TALKED ABOUT EARLIER..
YEAH, THANKS TO YOU WE GOT ALONG FINE.
I'M GLAD I WAS OF ASSISTANCE
SO.
SINCE THEN, "HOW'S SCHOOL GOING?"
...
"I'VE MADE SOME NEW FRIENDS."

ANOTHER TIP FROM OUR STUDENT EMPLOYEE?
TAK TAK
SIX TIPS— ONE EVERY MONTH.
WHEN YOU CONSIDER THAT EVERY SINGLE ONE'S LED TO AN ARREST—
SEEMS LIKE HE MIGHT BE A PRETTY TALENTED INFORMER.
HE'S SOME-THING, THAT SHIMIZU
WITHOUT ANY REAL COMPEN-SATION, HE'S RISKING A LOT TO FEED US DEALERS' NAMES.
I WONDER IF HE'S TURNED A NEW LEAF
IT'S LIKE HE JUST WANTS TO HELP OUT THE NARCS.
...
YOU'RE SO NAIVE.
CLICK
!

WHAT?
LISTEN ...
COULD YOU...
...QUIT SMOKING RIGHT NOW... COLD TURKEY?
HUH?
WHAT THE HELL?
YOU CAN'T, CAN YOU?
YOU SMOKERS KNOW THE MEDICAL EFFECTS OF TOBACCO, YET YOU'RE DEAF TO THE FACT THAT IT'S A TERRIBLE HABIT
"IT CALMS ME DOWN."
"I CAN WORK BETTER WHEN I SMOKE." ET CETERA
YOU WANT TO SMOKE, SO YOU MAKE ALL KINDS OF EXCUSES.
HMPH
IF NICOTINE WERE REALLY THAT GOOD FOR YOU, I'D SMOKE TOO
Oh, no!
BUT IN REALITY IT'S THE NUMBER ONE CAUSE OF LUNG CANCER
SHUT UP!

I CAN SMOKE IF I WANT TO! IT'S MY LIFE, ANYWAY!
I'LL DIE RIGHT ALONG WITH MY BELOVED NICOTINE!
SPOKEN LIKE A TRUE SMOKER.
IT ALMOST SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE REALLY DOING IT JUST BECAUSE YOU LIKE IT.
HONK
THAT'S 'CAUSE I AM!
Give it!
NO, YOU'RE NOT.
THE TOBACCO IS *MAKING* YOU SMOKE. IT'S A DESPERATELY ADDICTIVE DRUG.
IT'S NOT A PREFERENCE. IT'S A *COMPULSION*.
TWITCH
WE COULD SAY YOU'RE BEING *CONTROLLED* BY IT.
EVEN IF YOU CAN CLAIM, "I CAN QUIT WHENEVER I WANT," ACTUALLY MAKING THAT CHOICE IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT
DO YOU STILL WANT IT BACK? YOUR MASTER?
OR SHALL I GO ON?
...
HF

THIS ...
...IS WHY THERE'S NO END TO RELAPSING DRUG USERS.
gyut
KICKING THE HABIT IS NO EASY THING.
SO BASICALLY..
YOU'RE ANTI-SMOKING
puff
...AND YOU DON'T TRUST THE WORDS "TURNING OVER A NEW LEAF"
YOU'RE PRETTY SMART TODAY
Ha ha ha
TAK
TAK
AL-THOUGH I'M NOT ES-PECIALLY ANTI-SMOKING
AS LONG AS IT'S LEGAL, THEN...
TIME FOR WORK.
KAJIYAMA, HIKI.

SHINSUKE YAMASHITA, 23, A JUNIOR AT TEITO ART COLLEGE
APPARENTLY HE GROWS MARIJUANA IN HIS HOME AND HAS PARTIES EVERY SO OFTEN
I WANT YOU TWO TO STICK TO HIM...
...AND CORROBORATE THE REPORT.
ANOTHER TIP FROM OUR STUDENT EMPLOYEE?
YEAH. YOU GOT A PROBLEM WITH THAT?
OR DO YOU JUST HATE DOING STAKEOUTS?
CHIEF ONODERA
heh heh
PLEASE DON'T ASK SILLY QUESTIONS THERE'S NO REASON TO ANSWER.
IT'S A WASTE OF TIME
ZING
WE'LL BE OFF
!!

LOOK, YOU
MY STOMACH HURTS...
Ugh
YEAH?
I KNOW A GOOD CLINIC.
FWISH FWISH
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN!!
Don't act like you don't know what I'm talking about!

AND HERE'S THE WEED-PARTY SPONSOR.
HE'S GOT A PRETTY NICE PLACE.
KIIK
THE APART-MENT'S GOT AN AUTOMATED LOCK AND GOOD SECURITY, LOOKS LIKE.
tak tak
KIIK
SO ANYWAY, ABOUT FOLLOW-ING YAMA-SHITA
katak
YOU'RE OKAY DOING IT ON YOUR OWN, RIGHT?
OR HE'S MADE IT ALL WITH HIS PARTIES
tak tak
TYPICAL SPOILED COL-LEGE KID.

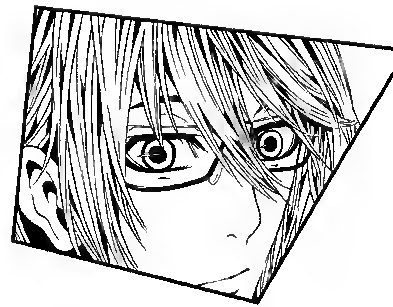
ON MY OWN?!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU GONNA DO WHILE I'M FOLLOWING HIM ON MY OWN?!
OH, ME?
ZOOONE
I'M BUSY WITH AN-OTHER CASE.
WHAT THE-!
SO, SEE YOU LATER!
VRO OM
SHIVER
SHIVER
YOU BURN IN HELL!
Teito Art College

HASN'T MOVED FOR A WHILE...
DOOO M
ha ha ha ha
ANYWAY, THAT S.O.B. JUST DOES WHATEVER HE WANTS!
FOR SOMEONE WHO SAYS "COOPERATION IS IMPORTANT," HE'S ALWAYS SAYING THINGS LIKE "RATIONALITY AND EFFICACY ARE PARAMOUNT!" AND GETTING IN FIGHTS WITH THE CHIEF OVER DESK WORK AND FIELD DUTIES.
pat
I GUESS IT USUALLY WORKS OUT OKAY, SO I CAN'T COMPLAIN
BUT CAN'T HE BE A LITTLE .. I DUNNO, SMOOTHER ?
EX-CUSE ME.
YOU DROPPED THIS

THE INFORMANT!
HUH?
HEY!
CRAP!
Yamachuto went to the classroom
WHAT? WHY WOULD THE INFORMANT HIMSELF BE HERE?

YAMA-SHITA!
!
BEEN A LONG TIME!
HEY!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING SNEAKING INTO MY SCHOOL?
I CAME TO SEE YOU, NATCH!
Q&Q
ME?
YEAH.
LET'S HAVE A PARTY.
!

Act. 52



LET'S HAVE A PARTY.
!
A PARTY? SOUNDS GOOD WHEN?
HOW ABOUT TOMORROW NIGHT?
TOMOR-ROW?
THAT'S PRETTY SUD-DEN
I FOUND A SHOP WITH A GOOD DEALER.
UNFOR-TUNATELY I'M ALL OUTTA WEED...
SHF
I'LL HOOK YOU UP.
THAT'S NO PROB-LEM.
SHF
DID YAMA-SHITA ALREADY LEAVE?
FWIP

OH, THERE HE IS.
IF I ADMITTED I'D TAKEN MY EYES OFF THE TARGET DURING A SOLO TAIL, I'D BE SCREWED.
I HOPE YOU DIE!
smile
SHIVER SHIVER
shf
?

Document Storage

...
ニヤ

...
ATTACK
SIGH.
JUST STAY IN YOUR HOUSE TODAY, OKAY, PAL?
SIGH...
HEY, NOW...

DADUM
WHA!
I'M BA-ACK! Hee hee♥
SHUT UP, I KNOW THA-
DON'T TAKE YOUR EYES OFF HIM.
AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO CONFIRM THAT YOU CAN NO LONGER SEE THE TARGET BEFORE STOPPING TO TAKE CASE NOTES?
"I'M BACK," MY ASS! WHERE'D YOU TAKE OFF TO AND LEAVE ME TO DO THE TAILING ON MY OWN?!
TING
JUST AROUND
AS IF I'M GONNA LET YOU OFF WITH THAT LIE!!
MMM... I DON'T LIKE SAYING ANYTHING WHEN IT'S STILL JUST CONJECTURE.
WHY'RE YOU SNEAKING?
YOU CAN'T EVEN TELL ME?
CAN YOU WAIT UNTIL THINGS ARE A LITTLE CLEARER?
CHI-K

pfff
FINE, WHAT-EVER.
JUST DON'T DO ANY-THING CRAZY, OKAY?
ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT ME?
I'm flattered!
Sigh
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE THE ONLY OTHER ROOKIE! DON'T READ ANYTHING INTO IT!
SO WHAT ABOUT YAMA-SHITA?
NORMAL. EXTREMELY NORMAL.
Pfff
VERY DAMN NORMAL!
THERE WASN'T ANY-THING ELSE OUT OF THE ORDI-NARY?
OH...
HE'S NOT LAZY LIKE A STANDARD JUNKIE GETS UP EARLY, GETS TO SCHOOL ON TIME, HAS CLASS ALL DAY
HE GETS LUNCH, HANGS OUT, AND GOES HOME WITH HIS GIRL.
HE STAYS OUT OF TROUBLE SAME FOR HIS FRIENDS. THE END.
I SEE.

SHIMIZU, THE INFORMER, WAS THERE.
SHIMIZU ...
HE DOESN'T GO TO THE SAME COLLEGE AS YAMASHITA, RIGHT?
SHUFF SHUFF
I DON'T THINK SO... HEY, WAIT-
HM?
HEY, AREN'T THOSE INTERNAL DOCUMENTS? YOU CAN'T TAKE THOSE OUT OF THE OFFICE!
It's written right on them!
huh?
OH, I'LL TAKE THEM RIGHT BACK!
Don't tell, kay?
GOD, THIS GUY...
SHUFFLE
WHAT IS HE UP TO, ANYWAY?
AND?
WHAT WAS SHIMIZU DOING THERE?
SSSS
YEAH, ABOUT THAT

HE..
GAVE ME THIS
Yamashita went to the classroom
YOU TOOK YOUR EYES OFF HIM?
...
BAILED OUT BY THE INFORMER?
glint
Doo
M
YOU ARE A FAILURE AS AN AGENT.
Death is too good for you.
shrink
It's +1,000
BUT IT'S WEIRD.
GOING OUT OF THE WAY TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THE GUY HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE INFORMING ON.
Kriik
YEAH, I THOUGHT SO TOO.
BUT IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE HE JUST BUMPED INTO YAMASHITA BY CHANCE.
WHICH MEANS...

HM?
LOOKS LIKE YAMASHIT, 'S GOING OUT AGAIN.
It never ends
...
AH...
DAMN ...
HE REALLY DOES HAVE SOME OTHER GOAL...
I NEED IT FOR A PARTY.
HAVE IT READY AT THE USUAL PLACE.
UNDER-STOOD.
ALSO ...
WEED?
YEAH.

HOW ARE THINGS GOING ON YOUR END?
PERFECTLY, THANKS TO YOU.
NEXT TIME, TRY NOT TO CONTACT ME WHEN I'M SO CLOSE.
I'VE GOT CIRCUM-STANCES HERE.
RIGHT SORRY.
や
3F
中国料理
2階

...
...
HM?
GULP
YOU'RE CERTAINLY IN A BAD MOOD.
NOT REALLY
THIS KIND OF LOUD PLACE AIN'T MY SCENE, IS ALL
REALLY?
I DON'T MIND IT A BIT.
WELL, I MEAN...
WHY NOT?

...HUH?
...THAT THE CROOKS SHOW UP.
IT'S BECAUSE RATIONAL THINKING FALLS APART HERE...
THEY THINK THEY CAN HIDE ANYTHING IN THE CHAOS.
BUT THEY CAN'T.
IT'S EASY MONEY— ALL THE CRIMINALS YOU CAN CATCH, DON'T YOU THINK?
WHOOSH
IT'S LIKE A FIRE SALE— EVERYTHING MUST GO!
Heh heh
...
I think you're a little prejudiced.
JUST MAKE SURE TO HIDE YOUR TWISTED IDEAS
They're freaky
I KNOW
I KNOW
shf
UH, HEY, WHERE—
I'M GONNA LISTEN ...
...TO SOME CONVERSATIONS.
...

HE'S ALWAYS DOING WHATEVER HE WANTS.
BEEP
YES?
INCOMING CALL
CHIEF ONODERA
YES, SIR...
WHAT ...?
A PARTY?
YUP.
I GUESS I COULD DO THAT, YEAH...
WHAT? ARE YOU GONNA MAKE SOME HOMEMADE FOOD OR SOMETHING?
HOW 'BOUT TOMORROW, MY PLACE?

...
BUT WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO TRY SOMETHING MORE FUN?
MORE FUN?
WHAT'S UP?
SIZZL
SIZZL
I JUST GOT A CALL FROM THE CHIEF..
SHIMIZU JUST REPORTED THAT YAMASHITA'S GONNA HAVE A PARTY AT HIS PLACE TOMORROW.
!
HE TOLD US TO GET ENOUGH EVIDENCE FOR A SEARCH WARRANT BY TOMORROW NIGHT SO WE CAN MAKE THE BUST.
I KNOW IT'S CRAZY WE JUST STARTED THE CASE TODAY!
GETTING PROOF IN ONE DAY IS JUST-
IS THAT ALL?

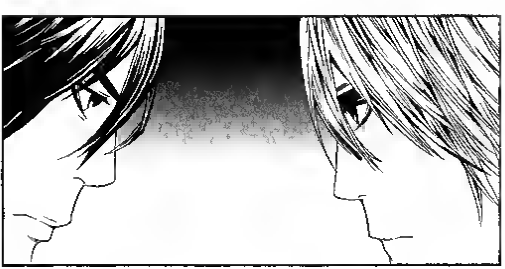
WHAD'YA MEAN, "IS THAT ALL"?!
sssh
WE'LL JUST FIND IT THEN.
IT WILL GET FOUND!
OR RATHER...
umph
shf
HUH?!
GRAB
IS THIS THE TIME TO BE TAKING IT EASY?
YUP.
UH, THE DEADLINE'S TOMORROW, YOU KNOW!
SO?
WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO?
GRAB

ARE YOU GONNA GO OVER TO YAMASHITA'S HOUSE AND PAW THROUGH HIS TRASH?
LET'S BE A LITTLE MORE RATIONAL, SHALL WE?
!
ARE YOU MAKING FUN OF ME?
THIS IS HOW I WORK.
IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, DO SOMETHING ELSE.
!
LOOK, YAMASHITA'S LEAVING. DON'T YOU WANT TO FOLLOW HIM?
...
...

'SCUSE ME
DON'T YOU GUYS WANT TO FOLLOW HIM?
HEY, YOU'RE--!
THE DEAL'S GOING DOWN IN A SUBWAY BATHROOM.
HE'S STOCKING UP ON WEED TONIGHT FOR TOMORROW'S PARTY
WELL, AREN'T YOU BEING COOPERATIVE?
...
A LITTLE TOO COOPERATIVE

ALMOST LIKE..
...YOU CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOUR FRIEND ARRESTED.
HEY-
I REMEMBER YOU.
YOU'RE THE RICH-KID AGENT THAT WAS THERE WHEN I WAS QUESTIONED.
grin
I HEARD FROM THE CHIEF.
YOU'RE SOME KINDA GENIUS AT DESK WORK.
HEY!
LOOK...
YOU'RE THE ONES THAT WANT TO MAKE THE ARREST.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD TREAT YOUR INFORMANT WITH A LITTLE MORE RESPECT.
...
YOU GUYS ARE SUCH IDIOTS THAT WITHOUT A WORD FROM ME, YOU WOULDN'T MAKE A SINGLE ARREST.
AND THERE'LL BE NO DROP IN DRUG CRIME.
urgh
SO YOU BETTER HURRY! IF YOU DON'T GET EVIDENCE, YOU WON'T GET THAT SEARCH WARRANT!
OR...

DO YOU PLAN TO TRY TO RUN THE BUST TOMORROW WITHOUT PROOF?
DASH
HE'S A GOOD KID. DOES WHAT HE'S TOLD.
...
YOU OUGHTA LISTEN TO WHAT PEOPLE SAY TOO.



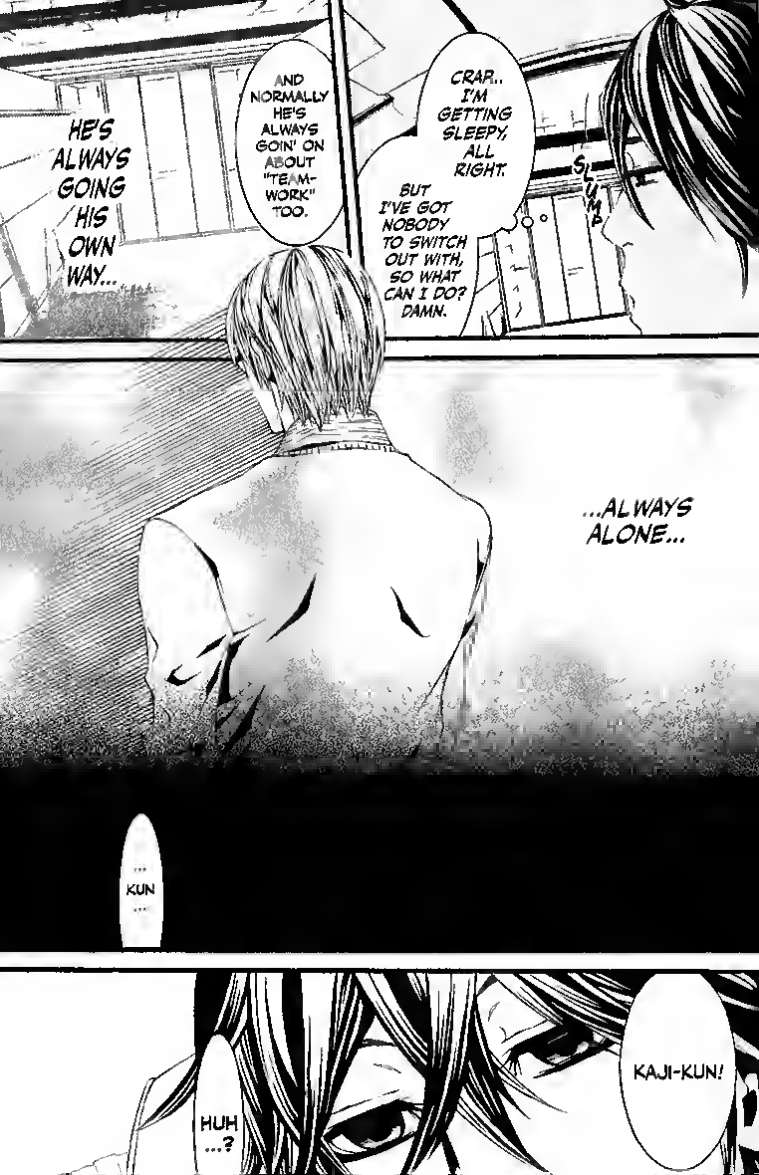
Act. 53

...
KLIK
KLOO
OH MAN-
THIS'LL MAKE IT EASY TO GET A WARRANT.

...YOU CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOUR FRIEND ARRESTED.
YEAH, IT'S ALMOST LIKE...
STILL, IT'S BEEN A LITTLE TOO EASY...
SHIMIZU SHOWS UP...
WE'RE BEING LED INTO MAKING THE ARREST...
AH!
THERE HE GOES AGAIN, JUST-!
DID YOU GET THE WEED OKAY?

I HAD THE BAG DELIVERED.
KATUK
GOOD.
YEAH.
I MADE DAMN SURE THE NARCS KNEW WHERE TO SHOW UP.
GAUK
I'M COUNTING ON YOU TOMORROW
shf
I SEE IT.
tik
...
GRIN
UNDER-STOOD.

...
"YAMA-SHITA RETURNS HOME ALONE."
skrit skrit
HAAH...
JEEZ, WHERE'D HE GO, ANYWAY?
3:47 A.M....


HE'S ALWAYS GOING HIS OWN WAY...
AND NORMALLY HE'S ALWAYS GOIN' ON ABOUT "TEAM-WORK" TOO.
CRAP.. I'M GETTING SLEEPY. ALL RIGHT.
BUT I'VE GOT NOBODY TO SWITCH OUT WITH, SO WHAT CAN I DO? DAMN.
SLUMP
...ALWAYS ALONE...
... KUN ...
KAJI-KUN!
HUH ...?

DISTRICT COURT.
!!!
It's morning?!
YOU WERE TRYING TO GET A RESI-DENTIAL SEARCH WARRANT, RIGHT?
EAR-LIER.
ANYWAY, JUST GO, GO!
rub rub
DISTRICT COURT...? W-WHEN DID YOU...?
SHAKES OUT?
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
WELL
IT'S JUST A HUNCH...
SMACK
THE HELL'RE YOU GOING ?!
I'LL HEAD BACK TO THE OFFICE WHEN THIS ALL SHAKES OUT.
chuck
HEY, WAIT A SEC!
SEE YA.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE IDEA...
...THAT SOMEONE'S WORKING WITH SHIMIZU TO FABRICATE THIS INCIDENT?
!
ARE YOU SERIOUSLY IMPLICATING BOTH THE CHIEF AND SHIMIZU?
NOT NECESSARILY THE CHIEF. HE'D BE JUST ONE POSSIBILITY, ANYWAY.
BUT IT WOULD EXPLAIN SHIMIZU'S EXCESSIVE COOPERATION.
IF SOMEONE IS USING THE NCD...
...THEN THEY WANT THIS TO END TONIGHT, WITH ONLY YAMASHITA'S ARREST.
...
OH, ALSO, TAKE THESE BACK TO THE OFFICE.
THEY'RE SO TOUCHY ABOUT THEM
UH... SURE.
OKAY THEN.
SEE YOU LATER.

fwish
oh-
flip
DO NOT REMOVE
VROOOM
...
shf
!
HE'S NOT ANSWERING HIS PHONE
WE'RE ABOUT TO DO A BUST!
WHERE'S THAT CHOWDER-HEAD WANDERED OFF TO AT A TIME LIKE THIS?!
...
Grr
ISN'T HE HERE YET?!

ZING
HE'S ON A CASE.
RIGHT NOW-
HE'S ON AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT CASE.
"AN EXTREMELY IMPORTANT CASE"?!
THERE'S A MORE IMPORTANT CASE THAN THE YAMASHITA ONE, IS THERE?!
...
TELL ME THE TRUTH.
THAT SPOILED LITTLE BRAT.
GOT HIS PRIDE INJURED AND DITCHED US, EH?
HIS PRIDE? WHAT IN THE...?
DON'T PLAY DUMB
IF IT WEREN'T FOR SHIMIZU'S ADVICE, HE WOULD'VE TOTALLY MISSED THE LOCATION FOR THE YAMASHITA DEAL
GETTING BAILED OUT BY THE INFORMER AT THE SCENE- THAT'S
! hmph

HE WOULDN'T DITCH BECAUSE OF SOMETHING LIKE THAT!
!
IF YOU THINK HE CARRIES THAT KIND OF PRIDE AROUND ON A CASE...
GRAB
WHAT'D YOU SAY?!
MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH YOU!
YOU!
SORRY I'M LATE.
shf
KAJI-KUN.

shff
IT WAS HARD TO FIND ALL SIX OF THE PRIOR ARREST-EES.
THE SIX WHAT?
WHAT'S THIS?
GLARE
YOU'RE SURE TAKING A LOT OF LIBERTIES, EH?
MY APOL-OGIES.
THE SIX PEOPLE ARRESTED ON SHIMIZU'S INFORMATION.
!
AH, CERTAINLY YOU SHOULD ARREST HIM.
YAMAGHITA NOW POSSES-SES MARIJUANA, AFTER ALL.
HEY, NOW, KIDDO, TONIGHT WE'RE BUST-ING YAMA-SHITA
YOU OKAY IN THE HEAD?
MRMR
SHIMIZU?

Chief! calm down!
ARE YOU SCREWIN' WITH ME, BOY?!
GRAB
CER-TAINLY NOT.
ALL I WANT TO SAY IS...
ARREST-ING LIGHT USER LIKE YAMA-SHITA...
...WON'T SOLVE ANYTHING.
?!
CHIEF, A PRO-POSAL-
PLEASE PUT OUR INFORM-ER SHIMIZU UNDER IMMEDIATE CLOSE OBSER-VATION.
!
FOR WHAT PURPOSE?
YEAH, WHY NOW?
Hmph
GIVEN THAT HE DIRECTLY APPROACHED BOTH AGENTS AND THE TARGET TODAY.
HE IS CLEARLY ACTING BEYOND HIS CAPACITY AS AN INFORMER.
...HE'S TRYING TO AFFECT THE OUTCOME OF THE CASE.
IT'S AS IF...
IT'S BECAUSE YOU TWO ARE SO WORTH-LESS!

HE'S FACED DANGER TO FEED US INFORMATION IN GOOD FAITH!
WE'VE MADE SIX ARRESTS THANKS TO—
YES, AND THEY WERE ALL SMALL FRY.
FOUR OF THE DEALERS ARRESTED ON SHIMIZU'S INFORMATION...
?!
...ALL RECEIVED THEIR GOODS FROM A BOSS IN THE SAME ORGANIZATION.
FIRST I'VE HEARD OF IT. WHAT'S YOUR SOURCE?
SMALL FRY?!
I TOOK THE LIBERTY OF RECHECKING ALL SIX OF THEM MYSELF.
WHEN ARRESTS GO UP, THE RISK GOES UP TOO.
SO IT PULLS THE PRICE OF DRUGS UP WITH IT, OF COURSE!
THAT IS ONE POSSIBILITY.
THEIR OWN TESTIMONIES.
THEY ALL DID BUSINESS IN A PARTICULAR REGION.
YEAH, SO?
BUT THE PRICE OF DRUGS HAS GONE UP THERE, AND THEY'VE BECOME MORE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN

BUT THERE IS A RUMOR THAT SINCE THE GROUP THAT THOSE FOUR DEALERS BELONGED TO PULLED OUT OF THE REGION...
...ANOTHER GROUP IS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE MONOPOLY TO TRAFFIC.
A RUMOR?!
A HA HA HA! C'MON, HIKI!
GIMME A BREAK! A RUMOR?!
SO IT'S A COINCIDENCE THAT FOUR OF THE DEALERS SHIMIZU SNITCHED ON WERE ALL WORKING FOR ONE GROUP?
THERE IS AT LEAST THE POSSIBILITY THAT IF SHIMIZU'S WORKING FOR THE RIVAL GROUP...
hmph
HE'S USING US TO ELIMINATE THEIR RIVALS!
I'M NOT DONE TALK-ING.
ENOUGH!
YES, YOU ARE!
WHICH ARE WE GONNA TRUST, YOUR VAGUE-ASS RUMOR?
OR AN INFORM-ER WHO'S HELPED US ARREST SIX PEOPLE?
UM— CHIEF ONO-DERA..

...
I'LL HEAR THIS WHEN THEY RETURN.
DEPART-MENT CHIEF...
Hash
Shf
WE SHOULD HEAD TO THE SCENE...
WHAT?!
KATUNK
...
...AND THAT YOU'RE A LOOSE CANNON.
LOOSE.
Hash
ALWAYS DIS-TURBING THE PEACE.
ALL MY OTHER AGENT'S SEE THAT SHIMIZU'S A CREDIBLE SOURCE...
KATUNK

HIKI...
I'M SORRY
YOU'RE ALWAYS COVERING FOR ME.
RUB
...AND NOW I'M MAKING YOU LOOK BAD.
I'M REALLY SORRY.
GRAB
LET'S GO.
KAJI?
YANK
TELL ME.
YANK
WHAT SHOULD I DO?

WHAT DO YOU ...?
YOU'RE GOING TO SAY ALL THAT STUFF AND THEN JUST GIVE UP?
THAT AIN'T THE HIKI I KNOW!
YOU'RE OVER-EST!MATING ME...
YOU'RE PROBABLY MORE TIRED THAN EVER.
I SHOULD'VE REALIZED AND HELPED YOU OUT SOONER.
DAMMIT! YOU'RE ALW!YS DOING EVERYTHING ON YOUR OWN!
KAJI...
THE DARK CIRCLES UNDER YOUR EYES
WAS IT THE DATA SEARCHING THAT YOU SKIPPED SLEEP FOR? OR STAKING OUT SHIMIZU?
!
THOSE RESTRICTED DOCUMENTS ...
WHERE'D YOU FIND THE TIME TO DIG UP AND ARRANGE THAT MUCH INFORMA-TION?
I KNOW.

I KNOW YOU WORK HARDER...
...THAN ANYONE ELSE IN SECTION 1.
ding dong
SPEAK OF THE DEVIL, EH?
HEY, WASN'T SHIMIZU GONNA COME TOO?
EH, NO BIGGIE
MEANS THERE'S MORE FOR US TO SMOKE

HEY.
YOU'RE KINDA LATE.
SOR-RY!
DON'T SWEAT IT. C'MON IN.
NO, I MEAN...
HUH?
THUNK
THUNK
THUNK
!

RESIDENTIAL
SEARCH WARRANT
WE'RE
NARCS.
NCD
Narcotics
Shf
GLANCE
KA
CHIK

KA-CHIK
...
shf
CHECK IT.
RRIP
ZZZZIP

TIKA
GOOD WORK.
...
THANKS.
KACHIK
Shf
ON THE DAY OF YOUR BIG "DELIVERY," YOU GET THE NARCS TO LOOK SOMEWHERE ELSE.
Shf
!
Whf
I SEE HOW IT IS.

YOU!
WHA
!
I'M SURE TIRED OF LISTENING TO OUR "GOOD FAITH INFORMER."
KRAK
BLUE, HUH?
THE POWDER IN THIS CAP-SULE...
TESTS POSITIVE FOR METHAM-PHETAMINES.
TOO BAD!

shf
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST FOR POSSESSION OF ILLEGAL STIMULANTS.
YOU CAN TELL US ALL ABOUT IT.
STARTING WITH HOW YOU SLUNK INTO THE NCD BY PRETENDING TO BE AN INFORMER.
KA CHIK
WHAT IS IT?
OUR MULE AND OUR LOCAL BOSS HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY THE NCD.
RRRR

HERE'S TO THE RYUGEN RETURNING TO JAPAN.
BUT...
THEY WERE VERY USEFUL— FOR TRASH.
WE ELIMINATED A RIVAL GROUP AND RAISED THE PRICE OF OUR PRODUCT.
THAT'S A SOLID RESULT.
...THEY CONFISCATED A BIG SHIPMENT OF THE STUFF.
IT'S STILL JUST A PROTOTYPE.
THEY CAN HAVE AS MUCH AS THEY WANT
NEITHER OF THEM KNOWS ENOUGH ABOUT US TO PROVE ANYTHING.
ON THE CONTRARY...
LEAVE THEM.
Shf

I WAS JUST MAKING DELIVERIES. IT PAID BETTER THAN ANYTHING ELSE.
THEY TOLD ME TO BECOME AN INFORM-ER...
SNIVEL
THEY SAID IF I DID AS I WAS TOLD, IT WOULDN'T BE DANGER-OUS...
IT'S THE TRUTH.
I DON'T KNOW ANY-THING...
EVERY SO OFTEN I'D GET INFORMATION ABOUT A RIVAL GROUP AND LEAK IT TO YOU GUYS.
THEY SAID WE'D GET RID OF THE RIVALS AND BE ABLE TO MAKE BIGGER SHIPMENTS.
WHAT'S
WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN TO ME?
ACCORD-ING TO THE ANALYSIS OF THE CAPSULE...
IT'S SIMILAR TO STUFF COMING OUT OF CHINA RECENTLY... THAT'S BEEN GOING AROUND A LOT.
...

GAH!
SKUFF
Sigh
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU WERE COMPLETELY USED.
ONO-DERA.
THIS HAS GIVEN US A LOT TO THINK ABOUT, MYSELF INCLUDED.
WE CLEARLY NEED TO TRUST OUR FELLOW AGENTS MORE.
!
...
ONE NEEDS A BROAD FIELD OF VISION FOR DETECTIVE WORK.
glare

WHA
I'M SORRY!
HMM!
I'm beat
GOIN' HOME FOR THE FIRST TIME IN TWO DAYS!
IN-DEED.

HEY, KAJI... CAN I ASK YOU SOME-THING?
YEAH?
MMM
WHY DID YOU TRUST ME?
I DIDN'T EXPLAIN ANYTHING TO YOU, JUST WENT AND DID MY OWN THING...
...
IT'S SIM-PLE.
YOU'RE THE SMART-EST.
HUH?
WHAT?
tsp tsp
I'M NOT LIKE YOU— I DON'T HAVE THE POWER TO SEE TRUTH AND LIES, READ BETWEEN THE LINES, MAKE THE DIFFICULT CON-CLUSIONS.
YOU DON'T KNOW THAT.
BLINK
SURE I DO. BUT...

SO I'LL DO WHATEVER I CAN TO HELP YOU.
I TRUST YOUR DILIGENCE AND MIND MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE'S.
YOU CAN DO THAT STUFF IN MY PLACE.
BUT DON'T EVEN *THINK* ABOUT GOING OFF ON YOUR OWN AGAIN.
KAJI...
I REALLY HATE THAT ABOUT YOU
SWOON
I love it!
YOUR SIMPLICITY COMMANDS THE UTMOST RESPECT!
JOLT
I think I might never be able to leave you!
BUT I'M COUNTING ON YOU, PARTNER.

switch
naked ape Saki Otoh & Nakamura Tomomi

Act.54

DON'T CRY, BABY GIRL.
BRRING
BEEP
...
UGH... I HAVEN'T HAD AN EMBARRASSING DREAM LIKE THAT IN A WHILE...
GOOD MORNING, EVERYBODY. I'M MIKA TACHIBANA FROM THE INTELLIGENCE SECTION.

TODAY I'LL TALK ABOUT MY UNLUCKY DAY.
I SORTA FELT LIKE SOMETHING BAD WAS ABOUT TO HAPPEN IN THAT DREAM.
I HOPE IT WAS NOTHING.
100% WHOLE MILK
wah
TARGET! 170 CENTI-METERS!
GULP
GULP
GULP
GULP
JUST GIVE UP ALREADY.
YOU'VE FINISHED GROW-ING.
THERE'S NO WAY YOU'RE GONNA ADD 20 CENTI-METERS TO YOUR HEIGHT.
THAT'S NOT YOUR CONCERN!
HOW TALL IS THE GUY YOU LIKE? 195 CENTI-METERS?
JUST GET HIM TO ACCEPT YOU THE WAY YOU ARE.
SHUDDUP!
r-ring

Wha
GREATER KANTO PUBLIC WELFARE MINISTRY NARCOTICS CONTROL DIVISION. THIS IS TACHIBANA!
...
ba-bump ba-bump
Dork
...UH, I MEAN, THIS IS MIKA.
...FOR SOME-ONE 35 CENTI-METERS TALLER THAN ME.
huff
I-MIKA TACHIBANA- HAVE EMBRACED A TENTATIVE KIND OF LOVE....
IT'S TRUE.
NOT THAT I LIKE TO ADMIT IT.
GOOD MORNING!
huff

Sighh
...
M-Milk
s-save me..
N-no
IT WAS HIM ..!
TAK TAK TAK
JEEZ! I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU WEREN'T GONNA FULL DOUBLE OVERNIGHTERS ANYMORE
YOU STAYED OVER-NIGHT TODAY TOO?
TAK TAK TAK
TAK TAK TAK
I CAN'T VERY WELL LEAVE WHEN THE BOSS IS ON A WORK RAMPAGE!
AW, JEEZ

TAK
TAK
TAK
TAK
GOOD MORNING, IBU!
MM
WORK GOING WELL?
MM
HAVE YOU BEEN GOING FOR TWO DAYS WITHOUT SLEEP?
MM.
AND PROBABLY WITHOUT FOOD TOO?
MM
JEEZ .. YOU'RE JUST HOPELESS.
Whf
SHIVER
SHIVER
YOU'RE PRETTY GUTSY, MIKA.
YOU THINK ?
I'M GONNA CARRY HIM TO THE SOFA, SO GIMME A HAND.
ZZZZ
OKAY~
KRIK
SWEET DREAMS!
ZZZZZ
Eek!
He's asleep. Here!
Aikido, 3rd dan.

BUT THEN YOU'LL BE ON YOUR OWN...
I'LL BE FINE
IT WAS SORT OF COMPULSORY, BUT AT LEAST HE CAN GET SOME SLEEP THIS WAY
WHY DON'T YOU CATCH A NAP TOO, MIYOSHI?
YOU TAKE A NICE LONG NAP.
RESTING UP IS PART OF THE JOB TOO!
MIKA !!!
BWUH
I tell him all the time!
Waaah
Tell that to him! I beg you!
kachik
OH, GOOD MORNING, CHIEF KATSURAGI!
MORNIN'.

I'M OFF TO BED!
KA-CHUNK
GLUG
SLEEP WELL!
HM?
THIS IS "MIYOSHI'S OWN," ISN'T IT?
HERE YOU ARE
TOK
THANKS.
HE TOLD ME ALL ABOUT IT.
"MY COFFEE TASTES DIFFERENT FROM IBU'S!"
YOU'VE BEEN MAKING IT DIFFERENTLY FOR EACH AGENT, HAVEN'T YOU?
THANKS.
WORK GOES EASIER WHEN IT'S DELICIOUS!

I HAVE SOMETHING TO DO OVER THERE, SO IT'S ON THE WAY.
NO, I MEAN...
DUUM
NO, I'M FINE!
OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. I'LL TAKE THEM LATER.
Oof.
I'LL JUST TAKE THESE OVER TO SECTION 2.
OH...
I DON'T THINK THEY'LL BE BACK YET.
OKAY, THANKS!
A BUST..
WELL, I'LL TAKE THESE TO SECTION 1 ANYWAY.
YES, A BUST, AS I RECALL.
TIP
THEY HAVE A CASE?

CAN'T SEE IN FRONT OF ME, EITHER.
totter totter
UH, THIS IS PRETTY HEAVY...
shf
!
ETO-KUN!
GOOD MORNING, MIKA.
WHERE SHOULD I TAKE THESE?
WELL, SECTION 1, BUT-
IT'S OKAY, I CAN TAKE THEM!
NO, IT'S FINE

YOU'RE ALWAYS DOING STUFF FOR ME, AND IT'S ON THE WAY, ANYWAY!
THANKS!
trudge
trudge
fidget
...
UM, ETO-KUN...
YES?
KACHAK
ABOUT SECTION 2'S BUST TODAY...
HM?
GOOD MORNING, KAI, TACHIBANA-SAN.
bow
GOOD MORNING!
wha
...
GOOD MORNING!

HERE'S YOUR DATA!
FWIP
THANKS GOOD WORK!
THESE ARE THE DOCUMENTS FROM LAST WEEK'S CASE.
FWIP
FWIP
FWIP
...
THESE ARE THE SURVEILLANCE REPORTS.
AND THESE ARE FAXES FROM THE MEGURO PRECINCT.
YOU'RE ALWAYS SO ORGANIZED, AREN'T YOU?
THANKS. I'LL TAKE A LOOK AT THEM
PLEASE DO!
LOOKS LIKE THEY'LL BE OUT OF TEA SOON...
IF YOU NEED ANYTHING BESIDES GREEN TEA, JUST LET ME KNOW AND I'LL PICK IT UP LATER!
OH, COULD YOU GET BLACK TEA?
GOTCHA

BA-BUMP
!
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR SECTION 2, THEY SHOULD BE BACK SOON.
...
?
fidget fidget
Y-YES!
DON'T YOU HAVE SOME DOCUMENTS THEY NEED?
THEY HEADED OUT QUITE EARLY.
OH!
UH...!
uh...
um
?
IT MUST BE NICE TO BE YOUNG!
STARE
heh heh
It ain't like you're getting old...
WHAT WAS THAT ABOUT?
tee hee
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
DASH!

CTION 2
!
EVERY-BODY PROBABLY THINKS I'M CRAZY...
I FEEL LIKE HE SEES RIGHT THROUGH ME... IT'S SO EMBARRAS-SING, DANGIT!
tap
tap
urgh...
AW MAN... CHIEF HIKI IS SUCH A TEASE.
HE SAID "SOON..."
WHEN WILL THEY BE BACK?
Out of the Office
MIKA-CHAN..
!
...
trudge
trudge

...
GLINT
C'MON OUT.
!!!!
.....
THERE'S NOTHING TO BE SCARED OF!
CHOMP
SHE TOOK THE BAIT!
haah
huff huff
SLUMP
...GOOD MORNING, MARI.
She would go for it, wouldn't she?
eeek!
GOOD MORNING, MIKA.
Ehem
OH YEAH... ABOUT ETO...
LI'L KAI'S HERE?!
HE'S ALREADY AT WORK.
RAWR
I GUESS HE'LL BE IN THE OFFICE TODAY TOO

MIKA-CHAN?
HM
...HEY!
...
LUCKY HER.
RAWR
AW-RIGHT! OKAY! I'LL FIND A REASON TO GO SEE HIM!
GOOD LUCK!
ACTUALLY I'VE BEEN WORKING A LOT LATELY...
THAT'S NO GOOD!
ARE YOU SLEEPING ENOUGH? LOOK! DARK CIRCLES!
AND YOUR SKIN LOOKS A BIT DRY TOO!
GLINT
I'LL GET YOU SOME VITAMIN C CANDY AND A FACIAL MASK WITH COLLAGEN IN IT LATER!!
A MAIDEN IN LOVE SHOULD BE SMOOTH, BRIGHT AND STRESS-FREE!
It's all about a healthy lifestyle!
AW-RIGHT!
RAAAAAR
HEY, TACHI-BANA.

GOOD WORK.
!
BOW
WELCOME BACK! AND GOOD WORK ON THE CASE.
GOOD JOB!
OMG, shes so cute! ♡
GLANCE
HUH?
UM..
WHERE'S ASSISTANT CHIEF ASAKURA?
OH, HE GOT HURT HE'S AT THE HOSPITAL RIGHT NOW
HE WASN'T HURT THAT BADLY, SO HE'LL BE COMING DIRECTLY HERE--
HOSPITAL? WHICH ONE?
MEGURO HOSPITAL. THE ONE NEARBY.
DASH

I'M GOING SHOP-PING!
I KNEW IT!
HUFF
HUFF
I HAD A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS!
HUFF
HUFF
UH, I'M LOOK-ING FOR AN EMER-GENCY PATIENT-KOJI ASA-KURA
MR ASAKURA, LET'S SEE..
UM, WELL...
HE HAS WEIRD LONG HAIR WITH A FEW DREAD-LOCKS IN IT, AND HE'S REALLY TALL...
...AND HE'S GOT THESE EYES THAT SEEM KIND OF LIKE A RABID DOG, IF THAT HELPS!
DOOOM

WHO'S GOT WEIRD HAIR?
!
ASSISTANT CHIEF ASAKURA!
YOU'VE GOT THAT SAME SHINY, SMOOTH, HEALTHY SKIN AS ALWAYS. MUST BE EATIN' WELL.
Hmph
Chief just let me die. Just let me die
SWAAY
GOOD JOB ON THE BUST, CHIEF.
THANKS
I'M HEADIN' BACK.
shf
HUH? BUT YOUR INJURY
HEY, WAIT UP!
tup
tup

UM, WEREN'T YOU INJURED?
KINDA.
THREE CENTI-METERS ?!
WASN'T THAT BIG OF A DEAL, BUT THEN THEY'RE ALL, "YOU'RE BLEEDING, GO TO THE HOSPITAL."
SOME JACKASS JUST MANAGED TO GET A KNIFE ABOUT THREE CENTI-METERS INTO ME.
shff
shff
I CAN'T LET SOME-ONE WHO'S BEEN STABBED CARRY GRO-CERIES!
BLACK TEA FOR SEC-TION 1—
EYE-DROPS AND COLD PACKS FOR IBU.
LIVER FOR NORIKA...
CHIEF, PLEASE!
LET'S SEE, WOULD THIS CANDY AND COLLAGEN MASK BE FOR KUZU OVER IN ANALYSIS, MAYBE?
WHAT ABOUT THIS?
sway
THAT'S—

wha
...THAT'S FOR THE 35 CENTIMETERS BETWEEN US!
THAT'S MINE!
GRAB
HMM.
SO THAT'S WHAT YOU USED AS AN EXCUSE TO COME SEE ME BECAUSE YOU WERE SO WORRIED?
Heh
N-NO!
DASH
IT WAS JUST ON THE WAY!
OOP
SMACK
JEEZ
YOU'RE HOPELESS, SHORTY.

...
I-I'M SORRY!
ACK!
SPLASH
shff
SORRY!
shff
CALM DOWN, CALM DOWN!

I'M SO SORRY!
YOU'RE NEW. IT CAN'T BE HELPED.
JUST FINISH UP HERE.
THEN TAKE A BREAK, OKAY?
thok

YOU'RE THE NEWBIE IN THE INTEL-LIGENCE SECTION THIS YEAR, YEAH?
UH, YES...
WANT ONE?
shf
OH UM, NO, I DON'T SMOKE.
SMOKE?
THESE AREN'T CIGAR-ETTES
THEY'RE CHOCO-LATE.
THEY'LL CHEER YOU UP
OH...
tik
THANK YOU...
...

RUFF
DON'T CRY, SHORTY.
YOU'RE A FULL-ON NARC NOW.
EVEN IF YOU SUCK AT IT NOW, KEEP AT IT AND YOU'LL CATCH ON.
I-I WASN'T CRYING!
OR SOMETHIN' LIKE THAT.
AND. .
BAT
AND I'M NOT "SHORTY."
IT'S TACHIBANA.
MIKA TACHIBANA.

pat
WHAT'S WRONG, SHORTY?
Hmph
!
I'M NOT "SHORTY!"
WHAK
Surprisingly strong
oof
I'M...!
I'M ..
...TACHI-BANA
MIKA.
HEY, MIKA.

DIDJA GET SOME-THING FOR ME?
...
GRAB
INTEL-LIGENCE SECTION DOESN'T STOCK CHOCO-LATE CIGARS.
IF YOU WANT THEM, YOU'LL NEED TO COME GET THEM YOURSELF!

YOU'RE SURE IN A BAD MOOD TODAY.
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE SO *MEAN* TO ME, CHIEF!
UM...
IBU WON'T WAKE UP *AT ALL*, GUYS!
BWA HA HA
...

IS THIS REALLY IN THE GANGBUSTERS JURISDICTION ...?
KLIK
KLIK
OH YEAH. NO QUESTION.
THIS IS ONE OF THE DEALERS WE HAD UNDER SURVEIL-LANCE.

Act. 55

FROM WHERE?
UP THERE.
LOOKS LIKE HE JUMPED FROM THE ROOF OF THIS APARTMENT BUILDING.
BUT THERE'S NO NOTE.
WE CAN'T RULE OUT HOMICIDE.
shf
HEY...

A "SEED."
THIS JUMP FATALITY WAS THE SECOND SEED-RELATED DEATH.
Special Anti-Organized Crime Unit 5
LOOKS LIKE EVIDENCE OF SIGNIFICANT QUANTITIES OF DRUGS IN HIS BODY.
AND THE AUTOPSY RESULTS?
THE "SEED" DEALER WAS THE FIRST.
A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT, I BELIEVE.
SO HE OVERDOSES
THEN OUT OF HIS MIND, JUMPS OFF THE BUILDING?
THAT'S A POSSIBILITY

GREAT. THERE GOES OUR BIGGEST LEAD...
GIVE ME A STATUS REPORT ON THE INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE DEALERS THAT ARE STILL ALIVE.
YES, SIR.
WE ARE CURRENTLY WATCHING THREE REMAINING INDIVIDUALS..
..THAT ARE INVOLVED WITH THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE HALLUCINOGEN "SEED"
HOWEVER...
THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE ACTIVITY, AND WE'RE HAVING DIFFICULTY FINDING A WAY TO APPROACH THEM.
WE'VE GOTTEN ALMOST NO INFORMATION SINCE COMMENCING OBSERVATION TWO MONTHS AGO.
AND SINCE THEN, TWO OF THE DEALERS HAVE DIED. IT CAN'T BE A COINCIDENCE.
WHAT IF THEY ALL DIE?
WOOOOOO
I'M SORRY.
BUT WE KNOW IT'S A VERY POWERFUL HALLUCINOGEN.
YEAH, IT MAKES YOU THINK YOU CAN FLY.

AND THE PILLS ARE TOO SMALL!
THEY'RE BARELY TWO MILLIMETERS ACROSS, SO IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL, YOU'LL NEVER SPOT THEM.
AND YET THEY'RE TEN TIMES STRONGER THAN NORMAL HALLUCINOGENS.
WHO MADE THIS STUFF? IT'S A MONSTER.
GUESS WE HAVE TO REORGANIZE THE CASE.
AKI-SAN.
YOU GOT A PACKAGE THE GENERAL AFFAIRS SECTION BROUGHT IT UP.
HM?
A PACKAGE?
"IGAKI"? DON'T KNOW ANYBODY WITH THAT NAME
BESIDES, WOULDN'T A FRIEND SEND SOMETHING TO MY HOME ADDRESS?
WHICH MEANS

WHAA
A REVENGE BOMB ?!
DID IT SHOW ANYTHING ON THE METAL DETECTOR ?
NO.
ALL RIGHT.
MAEBARA, YOU OPEN IT.
HERE
GACK
ME ?!
IF NOT YOU, THEN WHO?
HUH
FINE, FINE.
BRIP
!

FRUIT...?
YUP.
IT'S ALL SEEDS THOUGH, SO I NEVER WANTED TO.
WHOA!
YOU CAN EAT THIS?
KRAK
POME-GRANATES?
THESE ARE POME-GRANATES.
YEAH.
I NEVER MUCH WANTED TO EAT ONE.
IS THAT, LIKE, PEOPLE FOOD?
LOOKS NASTY.

AKI?
UH, NEVER MIND.
SO, IGAKI IN SUGINAMI WARD, WAS IT?
HE'S GOT A LOT OF GUTS, CALLING ME OUT WITH A RANDOM PACKAGE AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS.
AND THIS IS SOME KINDA TIMING.
UNDERSTOOD!
GUESS WE OUGHTA CHECK IT OUT, EH?
UH-OH...
I GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...

I'M SORRY!
I GUESS HE WENT OUT JUST WHEN WE TOOK OUR EYES OFF HIM FOR A SECOND, AND
GUESS WE SHOULDN'T HAVE JOKED ABOUT IT.
THERE'S NO WAY.
...
SEEMS HE JUMPED RIGHT INTO THE RIVER IN HIS CLOTHES, IN THIS FREEZING WEATHER
SO THIS MEANS THERE TWO DEALERS LEFT
THAT WAS PROBABLY THE DIRECT CAUSE OF DEATH
DROWNING
A DRUG THAT BECKONS DEATH SEEMS LIKE I HEARD SOMETHING ABOUT THAT SOMEWHERE.
WE'VE GOT TO FIND WHAT THE SOURCE WAS FOR THESE GUYS.
BEFORE THEY DIED

AKI?
...
I'LL BE BACK IN A SEC.
WHA-
WELL, THIS IS UNEX-PECTED.
I'D LIKE TO SAY WHAT A SURPRISE IT IS...
BUT I DOUBT YOU GUYS ARE JUST OUT ON A PLEASURE DRIVE.

HEY, KIDS.
HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE, NANJITA!
YUP.
SO...
WHAT'S YOUR TARGET?
"SEED."
CHAK
HERE'S TO OUR REUNION THEN!
!
WHUMP
NOW LET'S TELL EACH OTHER WHAT WE KNOW, HM?

TWO MONTHS AGO, OUR INFORMER TOLD US...
- ABOUT A NEW DRUG THAT WAS RIPPING THROUGH THEIR TURF.
WE'D JUST PUT EACH OF THE FIVE DEALERS UNDER SURVEIL-LANCE
KLIK
BUT WE STILL DON'T KNOW WHO THE BROKER IS.
...
HOW ABOUT YOU GUYS?
IT WAS A MONTH AGO.
WE ARRESTED A COLLEGE STUDENT WITH TWO "SEEDS" ON HIM, AND WORKED OUT HOW MANY DEALERS THERE WERE...
SIII IIGH
GUESS IT'S THE SAME EVERY-WHERE

WE'VE LET THEM GO FOR A MONTH NOW, AND STILL THEY DON'T SHOW ANY SIGN OF CONTACTING A BROKER.
WHAT GIVES?
THE SEEDS ARE TOO SMALL.
THEY CAN GET A HUGE AMOUNT IN ONE DEAL.
THERE'S NO NEED TO SEE THE BROKER ALL THE TIME.
YEAH, WE DO.
IF IT'S SUCH A POWERFUL HALLUCINOGEN THAT USERS ARE KILLING THEMSELVES
WE'VE GOT TO ARREST THE BROKER-FAST.
PEFF
WITH PEOPLE INVOLVED WITH IT DYING ONE AFTER ANOTHER, IT'S LIKE...
...SWITCH.

...
KRSH
OH, SORRY.
I WAS JUST THINKING ALOUD.
KACHUK
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE MOVING IN PARALLEL.
KATUNK
LET'S HAVE A UNITED FRONT THIS TIME.
CONTACT ME IF YOU FIGURE SOMETHING OUT.
YOU TOO.
YOU WILL, WON'T YOU?
SURE
STILL, YOU'RE BEING KINDA LAME FOR THE NARITA I KNOW.

I JUST DON'T WANT TO SEE ANY MORE BODIES PILE UP.
PLUS..
I'VE STILL GOT THAT BAD FEEL-ING.
...
NARITA?
SKRCH
HM? OH, IT'S NOTH-ING.
NARITA SEEMS KINDA... DIFFER-ENT FROM USUAL.
HAL...
LATER, KIDS.

...
AKI.
KAUN
RIGHT. UNDERSTOOD
WHERE'D YOU GO?
OH, JUST COLLECTING SOME INFORMATION.
AKI.
WE'VE GOT THE ADDRESS OF THE PERSON WHO SENT THAT WEIRD PACKAGE
IT'S PRETTY CLOSE TO HERE.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
HEAD STRAIGHT THERE
WE'LL SEE IF IT'S JUST A PRANK... OR IF IT'S GOT SOMETHING TO DO WITH THE CASE, EH?

WE'RE HERE.
...
AKI ?
UH... RIGHT...
SO... WHICH IS THE HOUSE OF OUR SENDER ?
THAT APART-MENT THERE.

...
IT WAS APARTMENT 2
ALTHOUGH IT'S BEEN VACANT FOR YEARS.
THIS IS THE PLACE.
PLEASE DON'T SAY SUCH DISGUSTING THINGS...
STARTING TODAY THIS WILL BE OUR LOVE NEST.

...SAIGA.
Investigation Section 1 Police Detective
Second Enforcement Division, Homicide, Yoshiaki Saiga
Hee hee
CAN'T TAKE A JOKE, CAN YOU, KID?
YOU'VE GOT A KINDLY SENIOR LIKE ME...
...WHO'S JUST TRYING TO EASE THE FATIGUE OF A STAKEOUT WHEN WE HAVE NO IDEA WHEN IT WILL BE OVER.
I NEVER ASKED FOR THAT.
AND ALSO...
SIGH

COULD YOU PLEASE...
...STOP CALLING ME "BABY AKI"?
AKIMUNE NARITA, AGE 22
SO YOU WANT ME TO TREAT A FLEDGLING TRAINEE WHO'S ONLY HALF-DONE THE SAME WAY I WOULD A FULL AGENT, EH?
HMPH
GRR
"FLEDGLING TRAINEE"?
STILL DOING HIS FIELD TRAINING
...
HMPH
WANTING TO BE TREATED LIKE AN ADULT IS PROOF YOU'RE STILL A KID.
BUT ADULTS ALWAYS WANT TO HEAR HOW YOUNG THEY ARE. NOW C'MON IN.

YOU'RE 35, RIGHT?
YOU SURE TALK LIKE AN OLD MAN, FOR 35
KUNK
AW, BABY AKI, DON'T BE LIKE THAT!
LOOK:
WE USE OUR INSIDE VOICES ON A STAKEOUT, HM?
DOOM
NO "BABY AKI"!
TONGUE
TSK.
AND I'M NOT A KID!
SHFF
SO, KIDDO, SINCE YOU'RE NEW TO THIS, WE'LL REVIEW THE STAKEOUT, SHALL WE?
DOOOOOM
SON OF A-!
...!
SO... TAKE IT AWAY!
CRAP.
BEAM
UH, TODAY'S STAKE-OUT...
...IS PART OF A HOMICIDE CASE THAT HAS ONE MIU KARIYA AS THE SUSPECT.

SHE'S SUSPECTED OF KILLING A COWORKER, AND THERE'S A STRONG PROBABILITY THAT THE FUGITIVE KARIYA IS HOLING UP HERE.
SO WE'RE STAKING OUT HER EX-BOYFRIEND TOMONORI ANDO'S RESIDENCE TO CONFIRM THAT HE'S SHELTERING HER.
WELL DONE!
TIC
THANKS
THE FIRST RULE OF A STAKEOUT IS *PATIENCE* SO IS THE SECOND.
SO LET'S DO OUR BEST
Sigh
ALL RIGHT
KNOK KNOK
KREEE
WHA
!
WELL, ISN'T *THIS* AN OBVIOUS STAKE-OUT.

DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU'RE GOING TO FLUSH US OUT WORKING LIKE THIS?
AH.
YOU'RE AS UNPLEASANT AS EVER...
KOSAKA.

Act.56

DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU'RE GOING TO FLUSH US OUT WORKING LIKE THIS?
AH.
YOU'RE AS UN-PLEASANT AS EVER.
KOSAKA.

!!
Huh?
IT'S OKAY, BABY AKI. HE'S NOT GONNA SHOOT.
BANG!
HE'S HOLDING THE GUN IN THE WRONG HAND.
HUH? A ROOKIE?
HOW'D YOU KNOW?
WRONG HAND?
KOSAKA HERE'S LEFT-HANDED.
YOU'RE GOOD!
YOU SEE RIGHT THROUGH EVERY-THING.
SO?
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
DAHHH
SAIGA...
YEAH?

NO SMOKING.
OH, RIGHT, RIGHT.
YOU HATE THEM.
TOBACCO IS A DRUG.
AND IF YOU CAN'T QUIT, YOU'RE ADDICTED.
STUFF'LL KILL YOU.
...
MY HEAD HURTS.
SMOKING HELPS ME CALM DOWN A LITTLE.
SO WHAT IF IT DOES SHORTEN MY LIFE?
SO GIVE ME A BREAK.
I'M FINE WITH THAT.
...

WHO'S THIS KOSAKA GUY?
...OH.
WHAT'S THIS WEIRD VIBE?
AND...
shff
shff
AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE
RIGHT, RIGHT. I HAD BUSINESS
ABOUT THAT "MIU KARIYA" HOMICIDE SUSPECT YOU'RE TRACKING DOWN...
WE ARRESTED HER EARLIER.
HUH?!
ARREST-ED?!
SON'S BAR
SEE? REALLY UN-PLEASANT.
WELL, THAT'S THE END OF THE STAKEOUT
shf

NO, HE'S NOT.
SO IS HE FROM THE DEPART-MENT TOO?
THE END ?!
KOSAKA'S...
REN KOSAKA, THE ACTING CHIEF OF INVESTIGATION SECTION 1 OF THE KANTO DISTRICT NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICE (FORMER NAME).
A NARC.
THE JURISDICTIONS ARE DIFFERENT, BUT OUR CRIME SCENES OVERLAP A LOT.
YOU SHOULD REMEMBER THAT.

CASES ARE WON BY WHOEVER'S FASTEST.
...
THIS IS DEFINITELY THE ROOM THAT OUR POMEGRANATE-SENDER USED.
AKI?
...

MAYBE IT REALLY IS JUST A PRANK...
I CHECKED WITH THE LANDLORD AND IT'S BEEN VACANT SINCE THE YEAR BEFORE LAST.
...
shf
AK!?
OH... YEAH.
AND THE LAST TENANT WASN'T EVEN NAMED IGAKI...

!
ba-bump
WAS THAT ...?
AKI!
OH, UH, SORRY. WHAT'S UP?
WAIT... THAT CAN'T BE. IT'S BEEN 16 YEARS.
THERE'S NO WAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT COULD STILL BE
SO LIKE I SAID, THE ROOM'S BEEN EMPTY FOR OVER A YEAR.

!!
IS IT YOU?
IT CAN'T BE...
UH, HOLD ON..
WHAT WAS THE SENDER'S NAME AGAIN?
YOSHI-TOMO IGAKI, IT SAYS.
...
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO NOW? IT'S BEEN OVER FOR SO LONG...
I COULD JUST FORGET IT EVER HAPPENED... BUT...
!

TAKE THIS TO FORENSICS.
ALL RIGHT, YOU...
WHAT ARE YOU TELLING ME TO DO?
ALL THOSE YEARS OF HARD WORK...
...COMING TO NOTHING.
PLEASE!
JUST LET ME DO A PROPER INVESTI-GATION!

WHY DO YOU CARE SO MUCH?
THEY JUST WANTED US TO GO DO A LITTLE INFILTRATION, IS ALL.
INFIL-TRATION ?!
AREN'T YOU CONFUSING THAT WITH "GOFER"?
ALL WE'RE DOING IS RETURNING DOCUMENTS!
HEY, IT'S AN IMPOR-TANT JOB.
I CAME TO STUDY WITH INVESTI-GATION SECTION 1. WITH THE HOMICIDE CHIEF.
WHY AREN'T WE GOING TO THE SCENE? WE'RE JUST MOVING THESE POINTLESS PAPERS AROUND!
...
LOOK, BABY AK!...
AND STOP CALLING ME "BABY AK!"! IT'S-
LOOK, CAREER-BOY.
GLARE
YOU SHUT UP AND YOU LISTEN.

STIFLE THE SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS. YOU'RE DOING YOUR FIELD STUDY.
SO THE DAY I TAKE YOU TO A DANGEROUS CRIME SCENE AND YOU GET HURT, MY HEAD WILL ROLL
...
GET IT?
SO IT'D BE SMART TO FINISH IT UP AS QUIETLY AS POSSIBLE.
YOUR FIELD STUDY WILL BE DONE SOON.
!
KLIK
BABY AKI.
!
JUST STOP THAT, WILL YOU?
KLIK

CAREER THIS, CAREER THAT...
I DIDN'T TAKE THIS JOB BECAUSE IT WAS *EASY!*
THEN WHY?
UH!
I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT.
...
OKAY.
SKREE
GOD!
THE PERSON TO GIVE THE PAPERS TO IS NAMED YAMAGUCHI
YOU TRYIN' TO *KILL* ME?!
GET OUT.

WE BORROWED THE DOCUMENTS TO USE IN A CASE.
SO BE POLITE.
KACHAK
...
!
Off you go!
TUP TUP
CRAP.
YAMAGUCHI, RIGHT?

GLANCE
...
NOD
THANKS!
IT'S AT THE END OF THAT HALL.
KA CHINK
SHF
!
HUH...?
TIK

KOSAKA...?
WHAT'RE YOU DO-?
Wha

TAK
TAK
TAK
...
wha
THAT'S RIGHT... HE'S A NARCOTICS CONTROL OFFICER.
HE'S A NARC.
HE WOULDN'T BE HERE WITHOUT A GOOD REASON.. THAT WAS CLOSE
I ALMOST CALLED HIM BY HIS REAL NAME.
I WONDER IF HE'S DOING SOME KIND OF UNDER-COVER INVESTI-GATION

KOSAKA WAS THERE?
VROOOM
YES.
HE WAS WEARING A LAB COAT.
DO YOU THINK HE WAS DOING SOME KIND OF INSIDE INVESTIGATION?
Shik
BEATS ME
kacha kacha
...
kacha
DO YOU STILL HAVE A HEADACHE?
klak
HM? OH, YEAH.
IT'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS AT NIGHT.

Shff
Shff
NO.
YOU DON'T SMOKE, RIGHT, BABY AKI?
SMOKES ARE CHEAP AND THEY DISTRACT ME.
shf
OH MY.
thunk
I HATE IT.
BUT I'M RUNNING OUTTA GAS.
AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU SHOWED UP ON THE FIRST DAY AND SOMEONE TOLD YOU "DON'T SMOKE IF YOU WANT A PROMOTION!"
IS THIS CAREER TALK AGAIN?
YOU JUST CAN'T HELP BEING SARCASTIC WITH ME, CAN YOU?
DO YOU REALLY HATE CAREER COPS THAT MUCH?
Heh
YEAH.

I HATE 'EM.
I HATE GUYS WHO DON'T THINK ABOUT ANYTHING SHORT OF THEIR OWN PROMOTIONS.
ALWAYS JUDGING PEOPLE ON THEIR TITLE OR THEIR CAREER HISTORY.
YOU'RE DOING THAT!
DON'T JUST DECIDE THAT ALL CAREER AGENTS ARE LIKE THAT!
THAT'S A VERY ADMIRABLE VIEW.
SO LET ME ASK YOU THIS.
WHY'D YOU CHOOSE THIS CAREER, BABY AKI?
um uh
...
HM? WHAT'S THAT?
I CAN'T QUITE HEAR YOU!
!!
HUH?
mble
HELP PEOPLE
mble

I WANNA HELP...
I WANT TO HELP AS MANY PEOPLE AS I CAN, OKAY?!
!
YOU REALLY MEAN THAT?
YOU BET I DO.
I GUESS THAT'S WHY YOU TOOK THE TOUGHER STATE EXAMINATION PATH...
I THOUGHT I'D BE ABLE TO HAVE MORE OPTIONS THAT WAY
muss muss
IF I'M GOING TO HELP PEOPLE, I MIGHT AS WELL HELP A LOT OF PEOPLE, RIGHT?
AM I WRONG?
YOU'RE A FOOL.
YOU'RE A REAL FOOL, BABY AKI.
GOD!

I DON'T HATE THAT.
STILL.
SERIOUSLY, STOP IT WITH THE "BABY AK!"—
SAIGA ...?
IF ALL THE POLICE IN JAPAN WERE MORE LIKE YOU...
I THINK THE PEOPLE YOU ALL HELPED WOULD BE HAPPY.
GAK
—!
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
HERE, I'LL DRIVE. LET'S PULL IN OVER THERE.
NN... YEAH... SORRY.
SKREE

KATUNK
JUST LET ME REST A BIT...
I THINK I'LL BE BETTER IN A SECOND.
I DON'T MIND, BUT... ARE YOU REALLY OKAY?
TING
UUGH ...
I'D SURE LIKE SOME APPLE JUICE...
HUH?!
WHEN I WAS A KID MY MOM WOULD GIVE ME THAT WHEN I WAS SICK.
Y'KNOW. APPLE JUICE.
Sllligh
ALL RIGHT, OKAY.
I'LL TRY AND FIND SOME ALREADY.
...

KIIN
!
...
KIIN
KIIN

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
SERIOUSLY, YOU CAN'T GET APPLE JUICE NOWADAYS
SAIGA-
HUFF
ORANGE IS OKAY, RIGHT?
HUFF
SAIGA...?

11
Switch
naked ape Saki Otoh & Nakamura Tomomi

Bonus
Track

GRIN
GRIN
VROOM
♪
SKREEE
KLUNK
!
!!!
WHA

SOB
HMPH
...
YOU COULD JUST CALL ME!
You don't have to kidnap me...
SERI-OUSLY
NO, NO, SEE-
THIS IS ALL PART OF CHIEF HIKI'S SECRET PRACTICAL SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAM...
AND YOU GUYS GET KIDNAPPED WAY TOO OFTEN. DAMMIT!
...
TWITCH
YOU'RE WEAK! TOO WEAK FOR A NARC!
DOIT

PREPARE YOURSELVES!
DOOOM
WHICH MEANS
TODAY WE'RE GOING TO REVIEW BASIC SELF-DEFENSE!
Noo! Too hot!
YOU FIRST, ETO.
TWEEN
FRONT AND CENTER!
/
ALL RIGHT, ETO. LISTEN
GRAB HIS LEG, THROW HIM, PUNCH HIM, WHATEVER I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU DO, JUST TAKE DOWN KAZAMI!
THAT'S GOING TOO FAR!
YOU'RE TEL-LIN' ME.
I'M ALL ABOUT PRACTICE OVER THEORY!
shf
READY
KA-ZAMI
"ANYWAY"?
ANYWAY, BOW!

wha
THIS IS POINT-LESS, NO MATTER HOW YOU DO IT.
...
HE'LL NEVER FIGHT.
MUCH LESS WIN ..
WANNA *BET?*

HOW'RE YOU GONNA PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FRIENDS...
!
...WITH A WEAK STANCE LIKE THAT?
DON'T BACK DOWN, ETO!
OH...
I DON'T WANNA TRAIN ANYMORE!
KAI.
YOU'VE GOT TO DO IT.
IF YOU'RE NOT STRONG...
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO PROTECT YOURSELF... OR THE PEOPLE YOU LOVE.

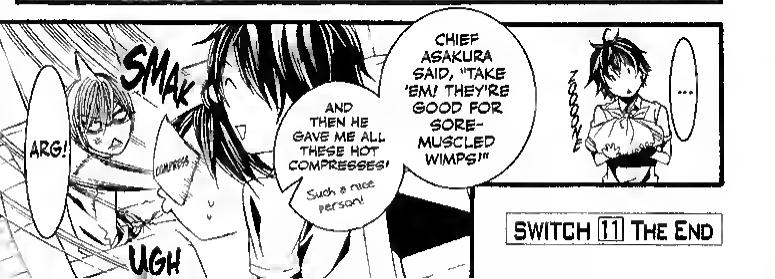
ETO...?
DASH
wha
!
!
!
RUSH

KAI!
!
shf
YOU'RE GONNA BACK DOWN, EH?
!
glint

WHOMP
!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
THAT'S ENOUGH!
SO CLOSE!
shf
YOU REALLY ARE STRONG!
A real former college champion!

PSST
YOU COULDVE WON..
WHA...
MAN, AND I WENT TO ALL THE TROUBLE OF DRAGGING HIM OUT HERE
shf
...
TOO BAD.
LOOKS LIKE I WIN THE BET.
...
!
WATCH IT.

THAT KID COULD DIE BECAUSE OF YOU SOMEDAY.
...!
WHAT'S HE...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH BRING-ING HIM BACK TO HIS REAL SELF?
HE'S GONNA DIE BECAUSE OF ME?



SWITCH 11 THE END